class VIII and also for reservation of 15% and 7.5% respectively for SCs and STs out of the total scholarship awardees. The selection procedure and all other rules and regulations of disbursement of scholarship are similar to that of the existing NTS Scheme.

Entry and operation of Foreign Universities/Institutes

2063. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Council for Technical Education has issued a notification in April, 2003 to regulate entry and operations of Foreign Universities/Institutions;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines; and

(c) the specific sectors in which FDI has been allowed in Education under authorised route without sectoral cap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI). (a) and (b) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) issued a notification dated April 3, 2003 regarding regulation for entry and operation of foreign universities/institutions imparting technical education in India. The notification provided for procedure and conditions for registration by the foreign university/institution concerned and withdrawal of registration by the AICTE.

(c) Foreign Direct Investment in education covering all sectors is allowed under the automatic route without any sectoral cap.

Mid-Day Meal Scheme

2064. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the deficiencies in implementation of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the necessary steps taken by Government to bring about improvement in implementation of the above scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) Some of the main deficiencies have been in terms of:

- provision of infrastructure for the programme,

- observance of hygiene, and
- wholesome quality of the food served.

Efforts have been made to suitably address the above concerns in the revised guidelines of the scheme issued to States in December, 2004.

Streamlining of different syllabi and curriculum

2065. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in different States, the different syllabi and curriculum are being followed at school and university level; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to streamline the syllabi and curriculum based on the consensus of Education Ministers of the States, students and teachers' respresentatives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) In school education sector, at the national level, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) prepares the curriculum for school education. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) adopts/adapts this curriculum only for its affiliated schools. The State Education Boards are not bound to follow the curriculum prepared by the NCERT. They are empowered to prepare their own curriculum for their respective schools. Both the Central and State universities, enjoy full autonomy particularly in respect of curriculum **and** syllabi being adopted by them. The subject "Education" being on the Concurrent List, information regarding details of curriculum and syllabi adopted by different State Boards and Universities is not maintained by the Central Government.

(b) The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) has set up a committee on 10.9.2004 to suggest an appropriate regulatory mechanism for institutionalizing the issue of preparation of textbooks and curricular material.

Inspections by UGC

2066. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission has undertaken inspection visits of AMITY University;